



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch (1145b)
3437 Airport Way
Suite 206
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-4777

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: September 15, 2004

EXPIRATION DATE: October 14, 2004

REFERENCE NUMBER: POA-1992-395-4

WATERWAY NUMBER: Tanana River

AFTER-THE-FACT

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

APPLICANT: Mr. Ray Kimberlin, Post Office Box 80564, Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

LOCATION: Section 23, T. 1 South, R. 1 West, Fairbanks Meridian, Latitude 64° 48' 27" N., Longitude 147° 41' 28" W.

WORK: Retention of existing fill material placed within a five-acre wetland in accordance with the attached plans, sheets 1-2 dated September 13, 2004.

PURPOSE: A commercial building lot with parking area to provide services for the business district located in south Fairbanks, Alaska.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This commercial lot is 18.5 acres in size, and located in a heavily developed industrial area. On June 17, 1992 the Corps of Engineers (COE) made a jurisdictional determination that wetlands did exist on the property, and that a Department of the Army (DA) Permit would be required for the placement of fill material into the wetlands. No formal wetland delineation was completed and the size of the wetland area was not determined. The property owner, Ms. Charlotte Maskey of Artic Redimix, Inc., was notified of the wetland determination. In 1998, a landclearing operation was reported to the COE Fairbanks office by an environmental consulting firm. This office conducted an onsite investigation and determined that the jurisdictional wetlands were not altered by the disturbance. Fairbanks North Star Borough tax records show that Mr. Ray Kimberlin purchased the subject property in 2001. Again, in October 2002 an individual interested in placing material onsite requested a jurisdictional determination. It was later determined that this individual was not the property owner, and the current property owner, Mr. Ray Kimberlin was not aware of the request. The COE did not make a site visit, but made a determination from available office information that jurisdictional wetlands still existed onsite. Mr. Kimberlin contacted the COE on August 11, 2004, and stated his realtor informed him he might have a wetland violation onsite. Mr. Kimberlin informed the COE that the property had been partially cleared prior to the purchase of the site. With information supplied by the property owner and obtained during a COE onsite inspection, it was determined that approximately 6.5 acres of the site was

wetlands before the placement of fill material in 2001, 2002 and 2003. Existing fill material now covers five acres of wetlands. On August 27, 2004, a Notice of Violation was sent to Mr. Ray Kimberlin, and on September 10, 2004 a DA After-the-Fact application was accepted from Mr. Kimberlin in order to initiate resolution of the violation. Mr. Kimberlin proposes to place a 6" gravel cap on the 17 acres of existing fill. He has agreed to leave a 50' wide x 1320' long wetland buffer zone (1.5 acres) along the eastern property line of the subject property (see page 1 of the attached plans).

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no listed or eligible properties in the vicinity of the worksite. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area. Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. *et seq* and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). We have determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: None

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the

proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Mr. Forrest E. McDaniel at (907) 474-2166, or email at Forrest.E.McDaniel@poa02.usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authority:

Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

A plan and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

District Engineer
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Attachments

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF WATER

Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program
401 Certification Program

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. **POA-1992-395-4, Tanana River** serves as application for a short-term variance of State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation, as provided in Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL 95-217).

The Department will review the proposed activity to ensure that, except for an allowed, short-term variance, any discharge to waters of the United States resulting from the referenced project will comply with the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation
WQM/401 Certification
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617
Telephone: (907) 269-7564
FAX: (907) 269-7508

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

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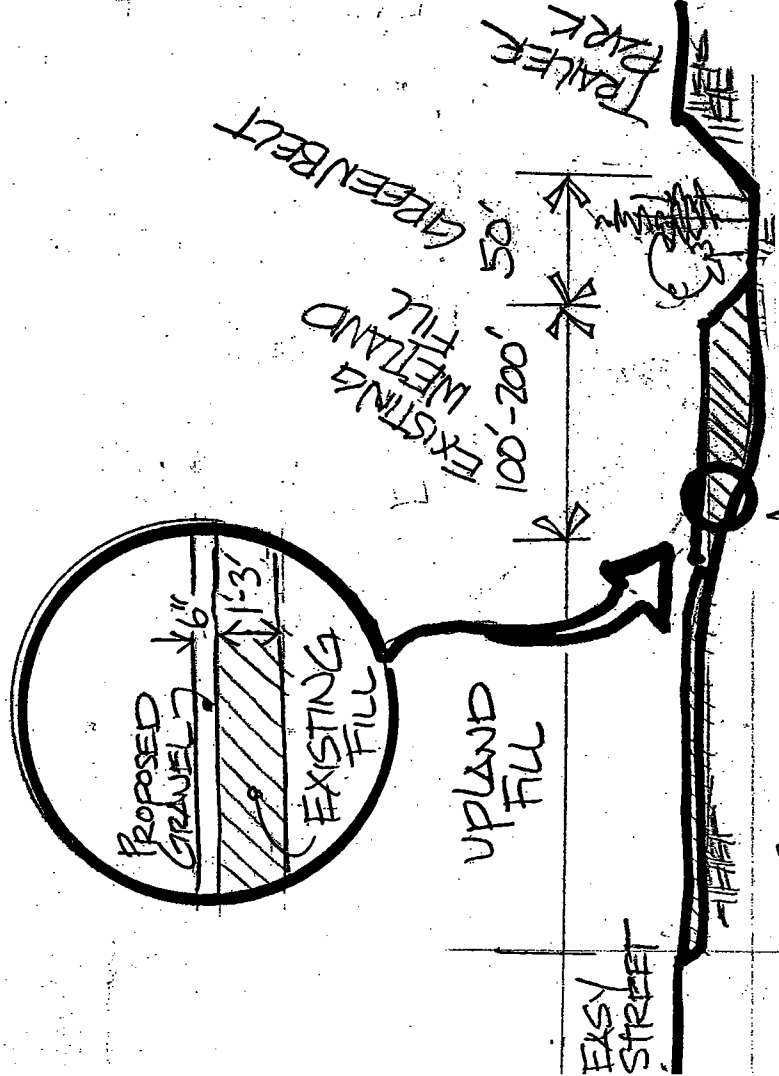
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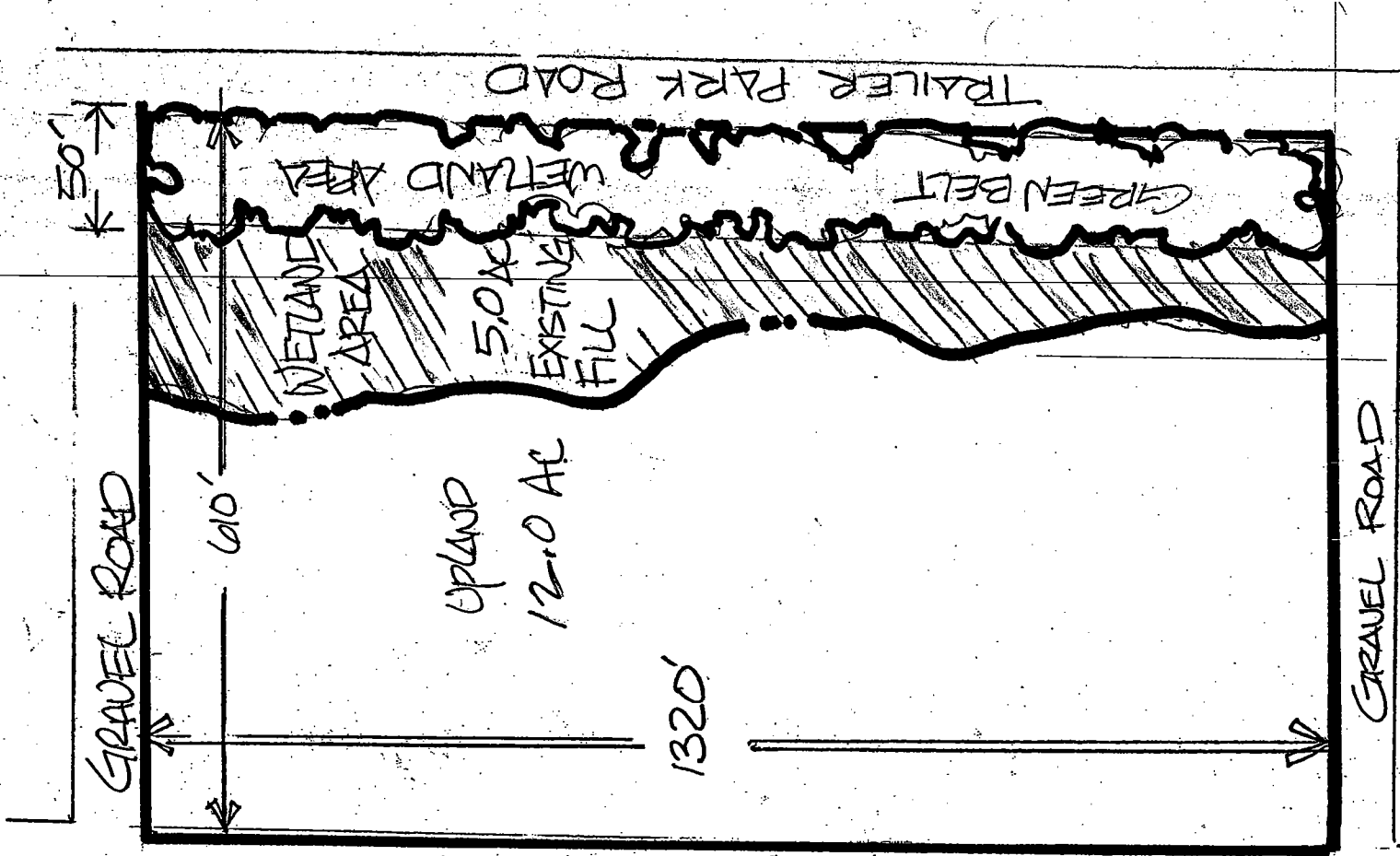
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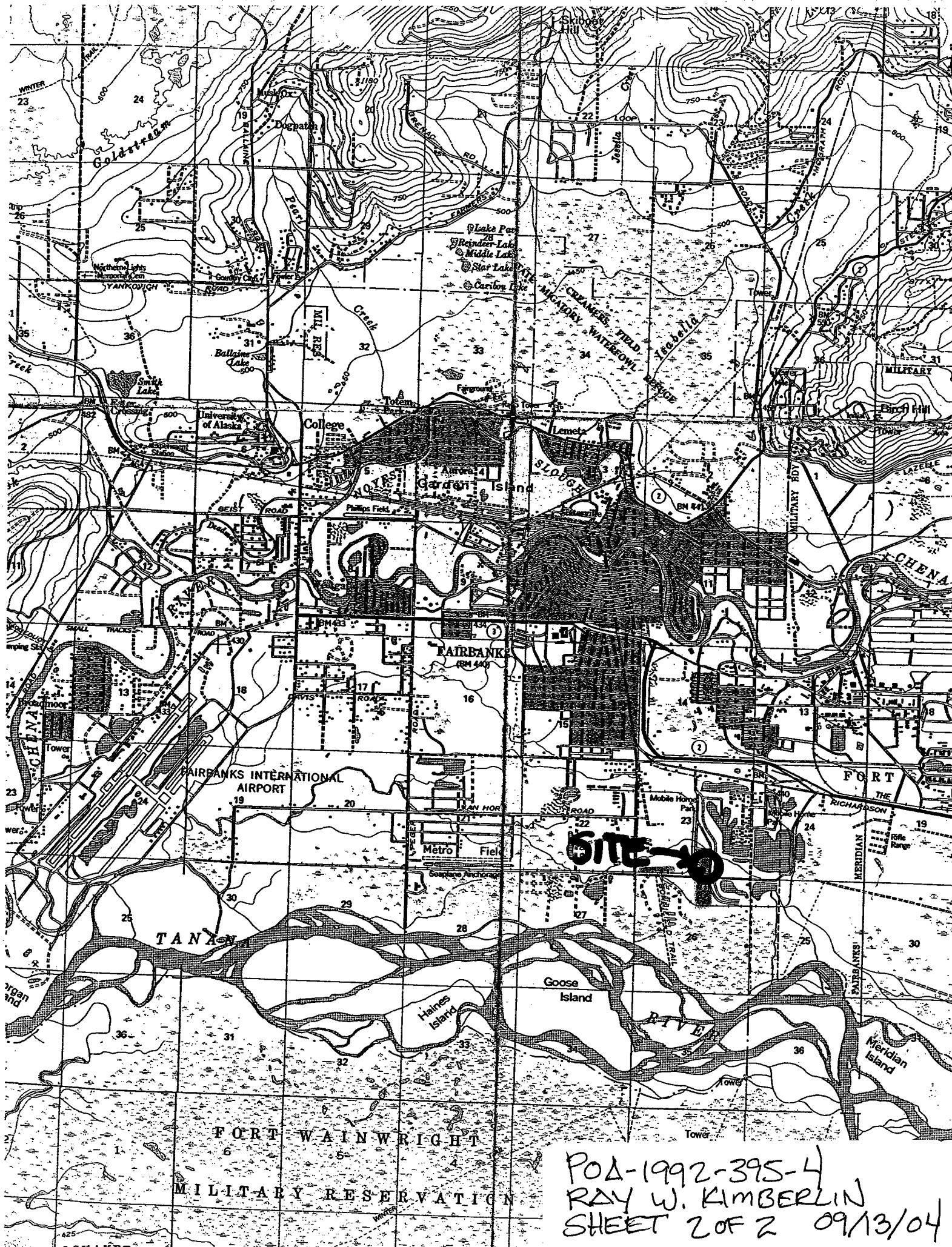
RAY W. KIMBERLIN
 KIMBERLIN COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES
 POA-1992-395-4

AFTER-THE-FACT DEPARTMENT
 OF THE ARMY APPLICATION
 FOR PLACEMENT OF FILL
 MATERIAL IN 5.0 AC. WETLAND



CROSS SECTION
 SHEET 1 OF 2
 09/13/2004
 NOT TO SCALE





POA-1992-395-4
RAY W. KIMBERLIN
SHEET 2 OF 2 09/13/04